

COUNTY OF YORK

MEMORANDUM

DATE: February 25, 2004 (PC Mtg. 3/10/04)

TO: York County Planning Commission

FROM: Timothy C. Cross, AICP, Principal Planner

SUBJECT: Capital Improvements Program: FY 2005-2010

BACGROUND

Section 15.2-2239 of the Code of Virginia states that “(a) local planning commission may, and at the direction of the governing body shall, prepare and revise annually a capital improvement program based on the comprehensive plan of the locality.” Accordingly, Strategy 1.2 was included in the Community Facilities element of the Comprehensive Plan:

“Annually review and update, with a resolution from the Planning Commission to certify its conformance with the Comprehensive Plan, the six-year Capital Improvements Program.”

Consistent with this strategy, in 2001 the Board of Supervisors initiated a policy of requesting the Planning Commission to review the proposed Six-Year Capital Improvement Program (CIP) for conformance with the Comprehensive Plan.

CONSIDERATIONS/CONCLUSIONS

1. The Six-Year CIP is prepared annually as part of the budget process. Compiled by staff in the Division of Budget and Financial Reporting based on input from County departments and the School Division, the CIP establishes a plan for the County’s future capital needs. It is one of the tools by which local governments implement their comprehensive plans. Section 15.2-2232 of the Code of Virginia requires that new public facilities be included in the comprehensive plan or be submitted to and approved by the local planning commission as being “substantially in accord with the adopted comprehensive plan.” Capital projects eligible for inclusion in the CIP are those that have an estimated expected useful life of at least three years and have a cost of at least \$30,000. The six-year time frame provides an opportunity for long-range financial planning and management, allowing localities to efficiently schedule public improvements that require more than one year to construct.¹
2. The proposed CIP for FY 2005 through 2010 contains a variety of projects that support the goals set forth in Charting the Course to 2015: The County of York Comprehensive Plan. Proposed projects can be categorized as follows:
 - Transportation improvements, including roads, sidewalks, and bikeways
 - Environmental enhancements, including greenways and conservation easements
 - Yorktown revitalization

¹ The Practice of Local Government Planning (Second Edition) edited by Frank S. So and Judith Getzels, 1988

- Underground replacement of above-ground utilities
- Water and sewer extensions
- Stormwater management projects
- Park and recreational facilities
- School renovations and additions
- General maintenance and repair of County facilities
- Technological enhancements to improve service delivery
- Replacement of obsolete fire and rescue equipment
- Fire and emergency response enhancements

Some of these projects – greenways and underground utilities, for example – are specifically included in the Comprehensive Plan. Others are not specifically mentioned in the plan but are consistent with its visions, goals, and strategies. For example, the plan does not say anything about replacing obsolete fire pumpers, but it does set forth the goal of maintaining a five-minute average fire and emergency response time to 90% of the County's land area. The link between each of the proposed CIP projects and the Comprehensive Plan visions, goals, and strategies is shown on the attached table.

3. The Commission has previously reviewed most of these projects and found them to be consistent with the Comprehensive Plan. There are ten new projects in this year's proposed CIP:

- Replacement of aging self-contained breathing apparatus, related air cylinders, and safety devices (PS-8402),
- Creation of a fund to acquire land for future park development (CS-8818),
- Replacement of a mobile performance stage used primarily as a performing arts venue in Yorktown and other County-sponsored special events (CS-8819),
- Roadway maintenance machinery and equipment (GS-8641),
- Acquisition of Mobile Data Terminal technology for use by the Department of Fire and Life Safety and the Sheriff's Office (PS-8919), and
- Various Yorktown improvement projects, including waterfront revitalization; utility undergrounding; streets, walkways, and drainage; riverwalk; and Archer Cottage/Pub Area. While these projects represent a new listing in the CIP document, they are not new projects. They were previously included as listings in the Yorktown CIP, which was a separate document approved by the Board of Supervisors several years ago.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Commission adopt proposed Resolution No. PC04-7 to certify the proposed Capital Improvements Program as being in conformance with the Comprehensive Plan.

Attachments:

- Capital Improvements Program /Comprehensive Plan cross-reference table
- Proposed Resolution No. PC04-7

TCC